

Top Secret 219

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Tuesday 20 June 1978

CG NIDC 78/143C

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

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State Dept. review completed

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Tuesday, 20 June 1978.

The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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CHINA-VIETNAM: Situation Report

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[] The Chinese operation to evacuate ethnic Chinese from Vietnam has begun against a background of complex political maneuvering. A Chinese ship arrived off Haiphong yesterday and informed the Vietnamese that it would move into the harbor today. So far, the Chinese appear to be complying with procedures set out by the Vietnamese in diplomatic notes delivered to the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi last week. Hanoi yesterday made public the texts of the notes, complaining that Peking had not yet formally responded to them and "demanding" a meeting with a representative of the Chinese Embassy to discuss their contents.

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[] The Vietnamese will require ethnic Chinese from Ho Chi Minh City to travel 40 miles to the port of Vung Tau to board Chinese ships. Hanoi has proposed that Peking also send ships to Qui Nhon to evacuate ethnic Chinese from central Vietnam.

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[] The Vietnamese have stipulated that no Chinese ship spend more than three days in any Vietnamese port and have suggested that the entire evacuation operation be stretched out over three months.

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[] The diplomatic notes and Vietnamese announcements outlining detailed procedures to be followed by ethnic Chinese wanting to leave Vietnam indicate Hanoi is moving to transform a spontaneous exodus into a tightly organized emigration program.

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[] These Vietnamese moves will probably do little to reduce Sino-Vietnamese political tensions. Reflecting these tensions, Peking on Friday ordered Hanoi to close down Vietnamese consulates in three cities in southern China and, according to press reports, has recalled the Chinese Ambassador from Hanoi. In an apparent effort to embarrass the Chinese, Hanoi has announced that it has agreed to allow China to open consulates in Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City later this year.

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BRIEFS

Czechoslovakia

25X1 [] Czechoslovak dissident leaders are showing high morale and are determined to continue their work despite increased police harassment, according to an assessment by the US Embassy in Prague.

25X1 [] In a strategy session last week, dissident leaders reversed an earlier decision and decided to issue in August a condemnation of the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. They are now circulating a document criticizing Soviet President Brezhnev's recent visit to Czechoslovakia.

25X1 [] A new center of dissident activism has developed in the provincial city of Brno under the leadership of the newest Charter 77 spokesman, Jaroslav Sabata. There are about 70 Chartists in the Brno area, including several priests who have been spreading Charter-related ideas from the pulpit.

25X1 [] All but three of the more than 60 dissidents picked up by police in late May--before Brezhnev's visit--have been released. Two detainees have been charged with "incitement," apparently for circulating an unapproved manuscript and face possible jail sentences of from six months to three years. We do not yet know the charges against the third man, a Catholic priest from Brno. []

Peru

25X1 [] According to unofficial returns, Peru's two major centrist parties received 63 percent of the vote in the constituent assembly election on Sunday. Victor Haya de la Torre's

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American Popular Revolutionary Alliance took 36 seats in the 100-seat assembly and Luis Bedoya's Popular Christian Party won 27.

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[] Six leftwing parties gained a surprising 30 percent of the vote in an apparent protest against the military government's severe austerity program.

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[] The assembly will begin deliberations next month on a new constitution--another important step in President Morales Bermudez' plan to return civilian rule to the country by 1980.

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USSR-Japan

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[] The Soviet Union yesterday officially notified Tokyo of its opposition to the proposed Japan-China peace and friendship treaty. A statement delivered by Ambassador Polyanskiy expressed strong apprehension that the treaty will be "spearheaded against the Soviet Union" and warned that Moscow will be forced to "make certain correctives" in its relations with Tokyo if the treaty is signed. The statement was apparently timed to coincide with the return to Tokyo of the Japanese Ambassador to China, who is preparing to resume the treaty talks in early July. []

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